

Christ- Centered



Biblical Training

Matthew 6:33; 1 John 2:6;
2 Chronicles 16:9

June 2008 Newsletter Report

Signs That Show We, As Christians, Are Maturing
in Christ So That We Can More Greatly Know and
Relate To God, and Live Amidst His Greatness●1

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INTRODUCTION, CONTENTS, YOUNG PEOPLE, AND NEWSLETTER PURPOSE●2●3

This newsletter report presents some general guide indicators that show how well we might be on the path to become greatly experientially mature in Christ at the higher skill levels that God has planned for us to have “His best” for now and especially for eternity. We can use these indicators to do self evaluation of our general condition. The indicators are in the form of two sets of questions and personal characteristics. This newsletter report also describes the direction many of our churches are taking that is much less than God’s best. Of course we all have much to learn in this trek through life.

God has planned the main direction in this life is that we, after becoming Christians, pursue and become **experientially** mature in Christ-likeness - applying what we are learning.●4 This is needed

1. NEWSLETTER CONTENT: *This newsletter also presents that our churches, not maturing their people adequately in Christ, are falling away from God’s best. As a result, their falling away is helping to cause the endtimes Tribulation to come. We must now warn, brief, and train our people for what they will experience as they experience the Tribulation. This is especially true for our children and youth. The Church’s Rapture comes after the Tribulation at the time of our Lord’s Second Coming. However, as presented, most churches will proceed wrongly that the current times of freedom will continue indefinitely. They will not.*

2. HELPFUL BACKGROUND: Please read our May 2008 Newsletter Report for helpful background.

3. REFERENCES ON MY WEB SITE: (*Read all of these references next.* They have the details and developments from Scripture. There are many facets to have an overall understanding.) **UNDER TRAINING:** (1) *Keys to Becoming Mature in Christ-likeness in Relationship Living;* (2) *Seek God's Best and Greatness; Pursue Spiritual Maturity in Christ-Likeness as God Commands With Excellence and Great Commitment;* **UNDER BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW:** (3) *God's Plan Over History for Man to Become Mature in Christ Needed to Eternally Know and Relate to Our Perfect God in His Greatness;* (4) *The Greatness of God Must Be Central;* (5) *Our Churches Are Falling Away, Being Transformed by the Dialectic Process to Bring World Government.* (6) *Serious Symptomatic Problems In Today’s Churches Based on Four Major Causes With Their Impacts and Indicated Solutions;* and **UNDER ENDTIMES PROPHECY:** (7) *The Pattern View of Prophecy - The Many Doctrines of Prophecy Show Clearly the Rapture Will Come Post-Tribulational and the 1000 Years During Christ's Second Coming;* (8) *The Endtimes Scenario for How Revelation’s Events Unfold;* and (9) *The Jewish Situation.*

4. MATURITY: Greek meaning of the English maturity and complete (e.g. Hebrews 6:1; Colossians 1:28)
(continued...)

for us to know and relate to Him and live perfect lives amidst His Greatness and Glory, both now, but especially in eternity. ***There is nothing else. We are not to pursue our own way to please ourselves or remain only teaching the basic fundamentals. God commands that we pursue maturity by teaching God's Whole Counsel. We are to obey Him to go His way, not do things for our way. We must be aware that there many mature skill levels in Christ-likeness. But if we do not pursue maturity (perfection in Christ), we may not gain the higher skill levels for our selves and our people that God desires for us.***

Hebrews 6:1 - Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

Colossians 1:28 - And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Acts 20:26-27 - "Therefore I testify to you this day, that I am innocent of the blood of all men. "For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose (counsel) of God.●5

Thus, we need to ensure we are on this course by adequately teaching, training, pursuing, and gaining the maximum mature skill spiritual ability levels in Christ-likeness in relationship living. If not, we can be making a most terrible eternal mistake. We can be wasting much of our lives, even if we regularly attend Church.

As will be presented, to have more of God's best, our churches need to be outcome oriented, not procedurally oriented. Thus, they should work to mature their people at the highest skill levels of walking with Christ, not just work for spiritual growth. They need a most complete curriculum for this that includes forms of on-the-job training. One should work with other churches to evangelize complete local areas, not just work to do some evangelism. We should especially work to evangelize the children.

For us to gain a maximum maturity in Christ, working towards having God's best, we, in my view, should have an appreciation of God's absolute Greatness and have fear of and great respect for Him regarding life and eternity.●6 He is in control and has created us. Thus, we should pay attention to His Word and do and become everything He wants without adding our own

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is becoming "perfect or complete" in the fulness of Christ.

5. PEOPLE'S BLOOD: The implication that if one does not teach God's Whole Counsel that is happening in many or the majority of our churches today, pastors and leaders can be guilty of the people's blood. This is most serious when the judgment comes.

6. GOD'S GREATNESS: One can read my document: *The Attributes of God* with the Scriptures on my web site under **TRAINING** to gain an appreciation of God's Greatness. For example, He works with billions of people and angels all at the same time, has created a universe so big we do not know how big it is, and has always known everything that can be known - past, present and future. He has absolute holiness, righteousness, and love. There is much-much more. Also, the Bible teaches that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom (Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7; 9:10; 15:33). Thus, we should pay attention to Him.

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concepts. (But what are we doing?)

Then, appreciating God's Greatness and having a fear (respect) of Him, we will not or should not just rock along in life without serious concern for what God wants for us to do and to become. ***We, instead, should seriously search the Bible for "all" of what He wants for us to do and to become and to the degree by which He wants them done. Then we should carry them out with excellence under His direction. If we truly loved God with all our hearts, we would want to know all we can about Him in His Greatness. Thus, we will carry out all of what He has planned for us to obey and become with excellence and completeness so this result can happen. We should not just attend Church. We need to be involved in God's life and work for us.***●7

Indicators of our actual spiritual growth toward maturity in Christ, as stated, are presented first, in two sets of questions, and then, in personal life conditions. The first set of questions can be one level above wanting to have Christian fellowship and wanting to serve Christ. The next or second set of questions can represent a higher and more mature walk with Christ. The personal conditions can represent still a higher mature skill level of walking with Christ. We should all want the highest skill level to which God will take us. Of course there is overlap in all categories. We can pray for a maturity at the highest skill levels and meet with people with the same endeavor. Thus, the questions and personal life conditions can give us indicators of the degree of our actual maturity with Christ, and are we studying to become more mature in Christ. ***Terse answers to these questions are in separate documents available on the web site.***

These questions with their answers and personal life conditions can signal how well we are actually being biblically taught, and may be gaining the "higher skill levels" of mature spiritual ability in Christ-likeness. With these, we can do personal critical analysis or evaluation of our own and church situation. I do this for myself. Not being able to answer most of these questions and not having many or most of these personal living-life indicated characteristics in our lives, in my view, can indicate and loudly signal inadequate teaching and learning and having a lower skill level of maturity in Christ - perhaps inadequate commitment to God and His commands. This can be true even if we are on fire for God in human relationships and fellowships in the Church; even if we want to do right and are involved in some way in God's work. We need to be in a place with good training, and we need to ***practice*** living out the training. We need to be ***experientially*** mature. And we can be experientially mature at different skill levels.●8

7. SIGN OF IMMATURITY: One sign of immaturity in Christ-likeness is not obeying and carrying out what one professes to believe, This is sin. Examples would be: (1) know that we should mature our people in Christ and then teach with mostly pabulum; (2) know that we should evangelize our complete local areas beginning with the children, and not doing it. **These can be among the greatest sins in the Church.**

8. GREEK CLASS: I once attended a Greek class where the teacher continued to teach at the lowest common denominator of the class. Half way through the course, half of the students left. There was little point in staying. Can such be happening in our churches today with their lower level of teaching and training? This appears to be the case. **Our young people after leaving home after high school are no longer attending church and are not involved in ministry. Our churches do not provide sufficient challenge for them to become more than they are. (In our view, this is a result of a inadequate church training and parent example situation.) Church leadership should find those who want to do much more and spend much time with them bringing them to a higher maturity skill level.**

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Wanting to see how well our young people were being trained that show where our churches are headed, I began asking many of them periodically mostly in high school (from many different churches and from different states) about 7-10 questions (the first set) about the Christian life and doctrines. I found that very few could adequately answer any of them. Can our adults answer them? Thus, the situation signaled to me that we can be developing the immature Church with a loss of biblical intellect and with a low plateau of biblical knowledge. (As Christians, we should be able to answer many or most of the second set of questions as well.) (Our trainers of young people and children should evaluate what they are doing, and in light of what is being shared in this newsletter report, should make some urgent and most serious changes.)

This situation has to be satanic strategy for the endtimes. If one wants to change the world, they start with and change the children and the youth. It led me to see that the Bible teaching in our young people's groups (e.g. high school) is very likely most inadequate, even though many good things are being done. Many young people, even so, are on fire for Christ to be in Christian fellowships and to help out with the ministry, but their Bible understanding was very limited. ●9 (e.g. ***They knew essentially nothing about Bible prophecy for the endtimes.) We are not readying our youth for eternity and for going through the endtimes.***

This unknowledgeable situation, and the observed falling away of our churches, led me to prepare this newsletter report. Those who cannot answer these questions, as stated, should do self evaluation of the teaching they are providing or are receiving. One may need to consider changing churches and/or Bible studies. One may have to remove their young people from high school groups, particularly, if they use loud dominate repetitive rock type music. Other contemporary type music may be okay.

There is much more, but these questions as indicators, can give us a measurement of how well we might be or not be on the way to maturity in Christ. ***We are all somewhere on the way.*** However, none of us know the complete picture or have reached the greatest maturity, but we can help each other in this commanded pursuit. We can pray for more understanding.

The current conditions in thousands of our churches signal that we, in my view, have fallen away from having excellence before God. We, as stated, are not seeking all of what He wants done, and the degree by what He wants things done, and then carrying out them in excellence. We are going much of our way, even though doing some good things, as is demonstrated in many or most of our seeker friendly and emerging churches (such as in the purpose driven life churches).

Be sure to read the summary near the newsletter's end.

At the end of this newsletter report are two directions that our churches in these endtimes can take with the resulting consequences. One (not recommended) is very wrong as it brings a falling away from God's best and desires. The other (recommended) is very right, resulting in having more

9. YOUNG PEOPLE ON FIRE FOR CHRIST: Many of our young people are gaining experience serving in Awana, 5-Day clubs, VBS, and going to help the needy such as in New Orleans. But what is their mature skill level in Christ-likeness. How much do they know of and have experience in the greater walk?

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toward maturity, God's best, and His intentions for us. One can be compromising and have characteristics of both. Unfortunately, many churches are compromising their teaching so that few now know much of God's Word toward God's Whole Counsel and can answer the presented questions and have many or most of the listed characteristics. Does your church know adequate Bible doctrine? Does mine?

Many, going mostly for relationships and fellowships without training in depth-breadth, very likely do not realize how much they are doing wrong - not maturing their people (The problem lies in what they are not doing as well as what they are doing wrong.) All churches, wanting to do right before God, should do a most critical analysis of their current condition and make needed changes. We should clearly understand that signs now signal the endtimes Tribulation can begin at any time. Without some level of maturity in Christ, there will be a massive falling away from the faith under the coming great and most severe persecution in the Tribulation. Having more maturity, one can stand stronger without falling away and gain more maturity in the Tribulation by which to relate to and know God in more of His depth-breadth in eternity.

THOSE ADEQUATELY TAUGHT AND BECOMING MATURE CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER THE LISTED QUESTIONS FROM THE BIBLE AND SHOULD HAVE THEIR INGREDIENTS IN THEIR LIVES (My perception)●10

First Set of Questions:

Questions Asked of Young People That Most Cannot Adequately Answer

(Can your young people answer them? Have you taught the associated doctrines?)

I have taught them and those associated with the second set of questions for many years in adult Sunday School classes.)

(Being able to answer these questions without knowing much about the Bible. may represent a greater mature skill level in Christ-likeness than just being on fire for Christ and to be involved in His ministry. We all have some maturity in Christ.)

1. How and why do we, as Christians, have eternal security in Christ?
2. How does one walk by faith?
3. If we truly love God, what do we do?
4. How does one become mature in Christ-likeness?
5. How does one walk as Christ walks?

10. TEACHERS AND LEADERS: If young people (and adults) cannot answer these questions (in both sets) very well, it, in my view, signals that their Bible studies and trainings can be inadequate. Teachers and trainers should take notice if they are not training in these categories so their students can answer these questions (and live them out in their Christian lives appropriately) and also many others in similar categories such as in the second list of questions. **They should make necessary changes.**

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6. What is meant by the baptism of the Holy Spirit (nothing to do with tongues)?
7. What is meant by the filling of the Holy Spirit (nothing to do with tongues)?
8. What is meant by the term: redemption?
9. What is meant by the term: atonement for iniquity?
10. What are and what is the interpretation of Daniel's seventy weeks?

Second Set of Questions:

Additional Questions That We Should Be Able to Answer, Being Adequately Taught, For an Indicator and the Greater Understanding of Our Pathway to Maturity

(We should have training in our churches and youth groups in all of these categories. Are you as a leader training in these categories? Can our adult church people answer these questions?)

(Being able to answer these questions may represent one step up in maturity in Christ-likeness above that needed to answer the first set of questions.)

1. To live the Christian life the best, and have the best teaching, what **must** we most greatly appreciate, and, believing this, what should our top procedure be?
2. What do we do to receive revelation from God about the Scriptures?
3. "How" do we glorify God?
4. How do we walk by sacrificial love?
5. What activity or life approach is generally the source or cause of most sins?
6. Other than worshiping and glorifying God, what is the highest priority ministry of Church and family leadership?
7. How are husbands and wives to relate to each other in head-subordinate relationships?
8. What is the blessed hope of the Church?
9. How does one lead a person to believe the Gospel - lead them to Christ to become Christians (as God is working in them)?
10. Who is the Lord Jesus Christ - from whence did He come? How long has He lived?
11. How did Christ, when on the Cross, satisfy God's Justice for sin?
12. What English Bible translations would we use to have the most accurate Bibles?
13. How do we biblically have fellowship with God, and then, with each other?
14. What is the major pursuit in the Christian life and why?

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15. When we get into trials and testings, how should we think and what should we do?
16. How do the endtimes come, and how do the events of Revelation unfold?
17. What are the goals of Satan and what are his strategies to accomplish His goals?
18. If something unexpected or unusual happened in your life, what might be God wanting you to do?
19. What do you need to study and become, after becoming a Christian?
20. Why are we on the earth? Why did not God just create us with the condition that we, as Christians, will have at the time of death?
21. What is the main and priority job of Church leadership and how is it carried out?
22. What does it mean to be humble before the Lord? What does the Bible mean that the last shall be first and the first last?

GENERALLY, THOSE BECOMING MATURE IN CHRIST-LIKENESS SHOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING INGREDIENTS OR CHARACTERISTICS IN THEIR LIVES●11●12

(There can be Christian growth in all these areas. We are all in some stage of growth, not having arrived at the maximum possible. Our leaders show be teaching about these aspects in this section and demonstrate them in their lives. Having these characteristics, we can be at a higher skill level of walking with Christ than that described with both sets of questions. As stated, of course there is overlap.)●13

1. **Will appreciate God's absolute Greatness** such that he searches the Bible for all that God wants done, and to the degree by which He wants them done, and then carries them out with excellence, expediency, and commitment and does nothing else for direction.
2. Studies and teaches (including from the pulpit to our church congregations) only from the most

11. OBSERVATION: If one does not have many or most of these characteristics, one should seek a good (and better) Bible study - even considering changing churches, if one can find one. **If not gather a like minded set of believers and meet regularly together. (Exceptions can be on the mission field where many or most are new in the Lord.)**

12. INPUTS: In addition to my personal studies, Inputs were taken from others, including particularly with permission from the publication: *Biblical Christianity (Growth, Maturity, and Accountability)* by Jay Grimstead, Coalition of Revival, P. O. Box 1139, Murphys, CA 95247, 1982. Those wanting information for small support and growth groups should read this publication.

13. EXCELLENCE BEFORE THE LORD: Teachers, leaders, and pastors should have these characteristics and teach them to their people to have excellence before the Lord. Not doing so leads to some degree of compromise. An example would be not to use the most accurate King James and New American Standard Bibles, but instead to use the less accurate translations or paraphrased editions, many which are easier to read. I do not want to hear the poorer translations or paraphrased editions read. **I want to hear the Word of God.**

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accurate translated Bibles from the original languages (e.g. King James and New American Standard Bibles). **They will want to teach from God's accurate Word.** (There may be exceptions when doing evangelism and on the mission field when few know much if anything of God's Word.)

3. Is involved in home groups for Bible study, friendship, ministry, and accountability. Thus, he has a regular New Testament type home fellowship with other Christians. (This includes sharing of their personal lives, commitment to each other's growth in Christ, helping in ministry, accountability to each other to live by and obey the Bible, and helping each other with serious personal problems.) One attends a good Bible teaching church regularly to praise and worship God. This could be a home church or attending church in any building. Remember the true church are the believers in Christ. Thus actually, one does not go to church, but instead, the church assembles for worship.
4. Will have settled the question of and will have Christ's Lordship in and over their lives. They have some concepts from the Bible of what He wants us to do and to become and are living them out.
5. Will believe the inerrancy of the Word of God - no errors of any kind or any amount in the original manuscripts. Thus "all" of the Bible can be trusted for life and ministry (but only in the most accurate translations from the original languages).
6. Will be regularly feeding himself on God's Word in the Holy Bible (Such as written, printed, heard, or on the computer), sharing with his family, and will be memorizing key verses and passages.
7. Will know and believe the basic Biblical Christian-Faith Doctrines, will be standing strong on them, and will not be persuaded by doctrinal error. He will have a personal doctrinal statement upon which he stands. (Could be his church's doctrinal statement).
8. Has regular prayer with and praise of God as a central part of his life. Led of the Holy Spirit, he will have God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ with the Holy Bible as the center of his life. He will act "humbly" before the Lord having and allowing the Lord first place and provide direction in all things. We will not act to take charge. But we can take faith action steps to find and determine the Lord's will for the unknown aspects and direction in and for his life.
9. Has a biblically ordered family life (husband, wife, and children) in head-subordinate relationship living, patterned after Christ's walk with God the Father. All will be in unity, particularly in unity with God and His ways.
10. Has his personal family as his highest ministry priority as a parent. As a church leader, he will have those of the Church family being His highest priority for the church in his preaching and training, especially the gung ho and the very faithful (over the watchers, new people, and the lost, even though working with all groups). (There will be no female pastors, preachers, or elders. Woman are to teach women, youth, and children, not the adult men of the church.)
11. Has, as being attached to the vine of Christ, the fruit of the Holy Spirit in his personal life and in his ministry life. (Seeing this spiritual fruit as described in the Bible, others can see that one is walking with God with God working in him.)
12. Will be involved in one or more ministries using his God-given spiritual gifts. He will be

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developing their growth

13. Has a good standing with the people in his local church and with unbelievers in the community.
14. Will be helping the needy sacrificially from love and will be working under the authority of his local church elders.
15. Will be observing the trends and doing critical analysis for how the trends and future current events can effect his church and family and make needed changes and preparations. (Thus, one needs to know how the events of endtimes prophecy unfold and the signs that signal a soon unfolding. These signs are here now.)
16. Will, as a church leader, have a “complete” curriculum, composed of both the what to’s and the how to’s, with on-the-job training for training of his people to reach a maximum maturity in Christ.

The minimum curriculum topics should consist of at least: (1) Basic Christian Faith Doctrines; (2) God’s Plan for History to Mature Us in Christ with the Spiritual Warfare (with its objectives and strategies) and Endtimes Prophecy; and especially: (3) Christian-Life Relationship Principles (How we walk with God).

The overview topics for this training consists of the following four topics where each has a depth and breadth (all four main topics are needed): (1) worshiping, glorifying, pleasing, honoring, and obeying God etc; (2) living godly lives in relationship living by faith and sacrificial love patterned after our Lord’s walk with the Father; (3) helping to accomplish God’s work of area-wide evangelism, discipleship to maturity, planting new churches, building godly families, and reaching out to and helping the needy; and (4) learning and standing strong on the Christian-Faith Doctrines for which we believe and are willing to die. There is much depth-breadth and detail in each one of these. ***A training curriculum for how to train with most of the above is Christian-Life Relationship Principles.***

The curriculum in Christian-Life Relationship Principles for living as Christ lives in order to gain maturity in Christ, in my view and experience, should include at least the following topics and taught by those who have raised families and have lived out many of them (I have raised a family and have taught these over the years●14) (See also our February 2008 Newsletter for more details on training and on endtimes prophecy):●15

(1) The Attributes and Character Qualities of God in His Greatness; (2) God’s Goal for People: Mature High-Skill Spiritual Ability in Christ-Likeness; (3) Learning to Live Life Patterned After the Father and Son Relationship; (4) Head-Subordinate Relationships; (5) Building Strong

14. TRAINING CHARTS: See my ppt training charts on our web site under **TRAINING** entitled *Christian-Life Relationship Principles*. **We plan to add facing explanation text. We can give seminars using these with updated charts. We can do this also on endtimes Bible prophecy.**

15. TRAINING INGREDIENTS: Each topic has a depth-breadth and the training should include the what to’s, the how to’s, examples for living out, testimony for how one lived them out, and some form of on-the-job training. One must gain or have “experience” in living them out for one to become mature (perfect and complete) in Christ.

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Families, Patterned After Christ's Walk With the Father; (6) Living by Faith; Claiming and Using the Promises; (7) Living Testings and Sufferings that Develop our Faith; (8) Living by the Love that Keeps God's Commandments; (9) Living by Hope that Keeps One Pure; (10) Living Necessary Attitudes, Leadership Character Qualities, Beatitudes, and Doctrines; (11) Having a Strong Prayer Life; (12) Living God's Way Under Spiritual Warfare; (13) Learning to Teach, Lead, Witness, and Evangelize; (14) Establishing and Operating Small Home Groups; (15) Recognizing and Correcting Spiritual Problems, Counseling; (16) Methods and Devotions that Develop Our Personal Walk with God.

17. Will, as church leaders and pastors, have the spiritual characteristics (qualifications) of leadership in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. Will have the characteristics of the Beatitudes.
18. Will be living to glorify God by giving back to Him in obedience what He has given (e.g. instructions, commands, and music) to us.
19. Will be trusting God, not himself personally, to work all things together for good, such that he activates his faith in God to work - from love, keeping His commandments, and from His purpose, helping to accomplish His work. ***(Trusting self to work all things together is major sin and the source of most other sins, by attempting to direct our own lives. We have no capability in the spiritual domain, even though we try and want to do right.)***

We should walk by faith in all that we do that we are living out what God is working in us with nothing coming from us as a source. The Christian life is not one of personal merit and source. God does not accept anything or glory coming from us as a source - inherit in ourselves, we have no inherent value or merit. Our Lord only thought and did what came from the Father as a source. We are to do the same. Then when people see Him and us, they in reality see the Father, because from us as a source, we are doing nothing. In this manner of life, we glorify God. Living this way, we live by the Greatness of God. Being more mature, we live by more of that Greatness and our lives present more of that Greatness. ***As said many times, this is the normal Christian life and the only true life that exists.***

20. Will, as a church leader as stated earlier, have the highest priority to mature His own people, particularly the gung ho and the faithful, in Christ, and as a higher priority over reaching the new and unbelievers (numbers) - even though he does all of these.
21. Will have our Lord Jesus Christ as the only role model for living the Christian life, and will train his people and family to live as Christ lives, with everything for life coming from God the Father as a source - now from the Bible, which came from the Father as a source. ***The measure of our maturity is how we respond to God in every aspect of life in comparison to how Christ, being perfect, would respond if He were to act in our place.***
22. Will, being highly mature in Christ, use the great hymns and choice of spiritual songs (such as Gospel and spiritual-type music) and Psalms for worship. One will "never" use loud repetitive dominate beat rock type music such as people have used in such as voodooism to call up demons and evil spirits (although it may use a faster beat at times). (In speaking about rock music, I am speaking about the music, not the lyrics.)●16 Other type contemporary music may

16. **MUSIC:** When believers sing the better hymns that are God oriented (not man oriented) such as: To
(continued...)

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be okay on occasions. (Using rock music is bringing the world's junk music into the church, even if it is used to attract numbers of the youth. **We are to bring new believers into the Church with a transformed life and with transformed music, not continuing the world's ways and music in the church.** Using the world's ways bringing them into the church, being a friend of the world, makes one an enemy of God.)●17 (Music is not neutral or amoral. It has a definite positive or negative effect on one's life. It has caused young people to rebel against parents and to go into immorality. I, personally, do not know of any greatly mature Christian who will regularly sit under rock type music.)●18

Colossians 2:8 - See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty

16(...continued)

God Be The Gory and How Great Thou Art, about Who and What God is in His Greatness, one sings with their hearts, minds, and souls. When one uses rock music, one uses their bodies and the above does not and cannot happen.

I attended a CEF International Conference in NC in May 2008. There were 1100 people there from 87 different nations. They all are Christians, all are committed to Christ, and all have led many children to Christ. When they sang: *To God Be The Glory*, it was simply awesome. One could hear their hearts singing unto the Lord. CEF never uses rock music, and it is most successful. **Neither should our churches use it. Those who regularly use rock music very likely have a lower maturity level in Christ-likeness than what God has planned.**

17. ROCK TYPE MUSIC: Reports show that when people listen regularly to classical music, their intelligence soars. This music has the melody dominate, the harmony next, and has the rhythm under control. Rhythm dynamics brings fun and life to the music. One can have trumpet toots, cymbal crashes, and drum beats and roles, but never dominate repetitive loud beat music. The problem does not rest with the instruments, but instead, how they are played. The Bible speaks of several percussion instruments. When one listens to rock music, the brains operates abnormal and does not work effectively to learn, but instead maintains towards status quo. When Einstein, as a lad growing up, began to take violin lessons and play good classical music, his intelligence greatly increased. But listening regularly to rock music, one's spiritual growth is stymied and one does not grow to the maturity in Christ as much as God desires. Thus, those, remaining under rock music, generally will not and cannot become mature in Christ as much as God desires at the higher skill levels for they have less sensitivity to the leading and teaching of the Holy Spirit. There may be exceptions. We can still be doing good things in the Lord and be involved in some of His work.

Many believe that people like the hymns because they grew up with them. This can be partly so, but they do not want rock music used because they believe it is doctrinally not of God. **Rock-type music should never be used in church services and/or especially in youth groups. Its use is compromise before the Lord and does not give Him maximum (if any) worship. It is used to help meet the felt needs of people as they want and see them instead of working alternatively to discover and meet our needs as God sees them. People more perform than are informed and have true worship. If one wants God's best, one will "never" use rock-type loud dominate beat music in any Christian and Church functions and services. (Some use rock type music in evangelism and crusades to draw the youth of today. But can there not be a better way?)**

18. WIFE: My beloved and dear very mature wife if she found herself sitting under rock music, would vomit. She believes it does not and cannot bring respect for and worship of God. **Mainly, in our view, only the best selected hymns and spiritual songs of the faith, based on the presented good music principles or foundation, that speaks of God's Greatness and like music can.**

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deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

I realize that many like the beat music, but does it bring maximum worship to God? (Are we attempting to bring maximum worship to God or to please and draw people? Using it for these latter purposes does not make it right to use if it does not please God.)

23. Will be a person who is still teachable and is continuing his learning. One will be taking active steps to learn about God, Christ, the true and complete Christian life, and the Bible.
24. ***Will understand that gaining maturity in Christ-likeness so that we can know and relate to God in His Greatness is “far more important” and “a much higher priority” than working for numbers, or just having a good Bible sermon.*** Unless pastors teach with the meat of the Word with much application and examples for how to live out the principles, few will gain after a period of time. One can overcome this situation by studying in-depth on their own. This is what I did. Without training with a complete curriculum (such as previously presented) for believers to become mature at the higher skill levels, we establish the immature church with a loss of biblical intellect and with a low plateau of biblical knowledge. This appears to be happening now in and to 1000s of our churches. This situation is a maximum falling away of our churches from God’s desired faith and practice. It represents great compromise.
25. Will, as a church leader and/or family head, regularly do self evaluation using critical analysis to determine how well he is actually maturing his people and is actually helping to do area-wide true evangelism for salvation (Justification for sin). He will act to determine whether his church is actually and/or inadvertently using satanic strategy, such as using mainly pabulum teaching and using rock-type music. How many water baptisms of new converts from the community has one had in the past few years indicating one are doing evangelism? How many of our newly trained people are in ministry and are building godly families? How many can answer the previously presented sets of questions and have the listed characteristics? How many come out for Bible training and to special elder meetings?
26. Will not allow his family and church to be transformed from orthodoxy and maturity in Christ to become the immature church with a loss of biblical intellect and with a low plateau of biblical knowledge by going to mainly first level or pabulum training, using loud repetitive rock beat music, and consensus community groups. (He will not join the seeker friendly and emerging church movements, or even adopt their concepts, nomenclature, and/or methods.)
27. Will realize that becoming mature in Christ is all that matters so that one can know and relate to God in His Greatness - in his depth-breadth - in close fellowship with Him. (Apart from knowing and relating to God, living only by His ways, there is nothing. Thus, we should pursue maturity in Christ as God commands for this to happen with excellence and great commitment. We should regularly pray for more understanding and spiritual growth.)
28. As a teacher or pastor, he will not aim as much to do teaching for content knowledge, but instead, he will do training for people to gain maturity in Christ. Thus, he will teach what to do, how to do things, give examples for carrying out the what’s and how’s together, give personal testimony for how he lives them out, and give methods and opportunities for on-the-job training. He can use case studies for applying the principles. He will train people to live by the Greatness of God. He will add content for background and foundational purposes.

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29. Will know that God (for His desired outcome) wants for us to know and relate to Him in His depth-breadth in eternity. For this to happen (His designed procedure for this relationship - needed spiritual ability), we must gain the spiritual ability of a mature high-skill spiritual ability in Christ-likeness living as He lived in relationship to His Father. Thus, God's goal for us (the goal and top objective for the Church) as an outcome is that we become spiritually mature in Christ-likeness, carrying out God's chosen procedure. **As method to reach God's goal for the church to gain maturity, we will train to worship and glorify God, live godly as Christ lives, help accomplish ministry, and believe the Christian-Faith Doctrines. (See earlier reference to these for more details.)**

Thus, as a Church leader and pastor, one will be outcome oriented, not mainly procedurally oriented. Thus, he will work to mature His people in Christ, and not just work for spiritual growth. Also, he will work with other churches to evangelize complete local areas, not just do some evangelism. (Thus, he will have the attitude of a Discipleship Training Center and not to have a Bible school. Thus, he will teach the Bible in a manner to have his people walk with God with God's best for maturity in Christ-likeness, not just to teach for Bible knowledge.)

Knowing and living (especially in eternity) amidst God's Greatness, surrounded by His Glory, living out what God is working in us, "is all there is." We need to have "experiential" maturity at the higher skill levels in Christ-likeness for this to occur amidst God's best. Having this maturity, we will and need to live as Christ lives with all direction coming from God the Father so we can live out and amidst His righteousness and holiness. Doing so, as many say, we can enjoy Him forever. But we need the proper Bible experiential training centered in the Christian life and in the Greatness of God to gain the life so that this will happen. We need to have a great love for God in all of His Greatness such that we carry out what He wants done and to obey His commandments. We will want to do His will.

The biggest catastrophe in life, apart from not becoming a Christian, is not to gain the experiential maturity that is needed to know and to relate to God in more in His depth-breadth amidst His Greatness and Great Glory. Church leaders and teachers must be sure they are maturing their people, including their children and youth, to the highest maturity levels they understand. They should continually pray and seek for more understanding. Church leaders, pastors, and teachers should thoroughly understand that the only job they have is to mature their people in Christ with a complete curriculum that has some form of on-the-job training. It is not just to have a sermon or a Bible study. They must be outcome oriented to know their job. (Of course one aspect of becoming mature is to train people to do ministry, particularly being used of God to lead people to Christ.)●19 (There can be temporary exceptions when working

19. GAINING MATURITY: Not obeying God to become mature in Christ can be a most terrible eternal mistake. Teachers can be most seriously judged by not working to mature their people, especially their children and youth. Not having the higher mature skill levels, one can be limited in their relationship, knowing, and being used of God in eternity amidst His great Glory. We must, by necessity, pursue maturity, as God commands for whatever reason He may have. **This is why we are here. Then we will have the best that He has planned for whatever that may be. We must pursue maturity as God commands for**
(continued...)

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with “ mostly or mainly” new and uneducated people who have but little Bible background, such as on the mission field.)

30. Should, as leaders and pastors, recognize that our spiritual experiential maturity we have in Christ-likeness at our death, we may have forever. Whether or not this is actually true, God has left this a matter of faith. But there are many indicators that signal this can be so.●20 Thus, leaders will be training their people as God commands to become mature in Christ. (See curriculums presented earlier.) What if our maturity in Christ is fixed forever at death and we do not now pursue it? Is this not a most terrible eternal mistake? ***The best procedure is to pursue maturity in Christ as God commands, as previously presented, for what ever reason God may have and for however He plans to use it.***
31. Should know and realize, that regardless of our past (making mistakes, etc.) we, working under God, should now work to have the best future, we can have.
32. Will not work for reform. But instead will work for revival and reform together, trusting God, not the reform, to heal the nation. Reform by itself does not work. Only God, not reform, can heal a nation and then generally only when and after His people obey with great revival.

SUMMARY OF THE ABOVE PRESENTED KEY QUESTIONS AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS OR ASPECTS NEEDED TO GAIN MATURITY IN CHRIST-LIKENESS NEEDED IN ETERNITY

TO KNOW AND RELATE TO GOD TOWARD HIS MAXIMUM

(Having and living out these many aspects shows we are gaining maturity in Christ. We must be sure we are teaching them in our churches, especially including to our children and youth.)

We are to live out what God is working in us such that all of life’s direction is coming from God in order to live holy, righteous, and perfect lives without sin. Only God has perfect attributes in all categories and is without sin or error of any amount or of any kind. This makes Him the Perfect God. Because God alone is perfect, He alone must direct and guide all of our lives in every aspect in thought and action so that we will live holy without sin, error, or breaking spiritual laws. This makes Him God. We, as Christians, will live this way in eternity.

Thus, in my view and understanding, the aspects listed below must be understood, practiced, and lived out by us, as Christians. This is so we can reach the higher skill levels of spiritual ability in Christ in relationship living that are needed for both now, but especially in eternity so we can know

19(...continued)

now because we cannot count on our maturity increasing in heaven. God may very likely deal with us with the maturity we have at death. There is most likely a continuum of mature skill levels in Christ in heaven.

20. ASSUMPTION: We should not just assume that after we become Christians that everything will turn out for the best in eternity, when we may do but little in the Christian life now in this lifetime. We should, from excellence, obey God now as He commands in all that we can find and search for what we do not know. We should endeavor to know and to relate to God as the highest priority in life because He commands that we do, and because all of biblical history leads us to becoming mature in Christ so we can know and relate to God in his infinite Greatness. **Thus, we should not only attend Church for worship as our single church endeavor. We should go to learn to walk with God and to help carry out the work of the ministry.**

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and relate to God in His fullest. (Again, apart from this life, there is nothing.)●21 ●22

1. One must appreciate God's absolute Greatness so that all life's direction (no exceptions) is sought and lived out coming from Him. Appreciating God's Greatness, one, as stated, will search the Scriptures for all that He wants done, and to the degree by which He wants them done. ***This is repeated for emphasis.*** Then one carries them out with excellence, commitment, and expediency and will do nothing else. This will lead us to put in a document all that we can find and then continually update the document as we learn and discover more. This document will be the guide for our Christian and Church lives. Such a document will be part of and foundational to our complete training curriculum.
2. Only God is able to work all things together for good. We are spiritually and otherwise unable. Thus, we must always live under His direction and trust Him to bring all life's results. In trusting Him, and activating our faith in Him to do so, we will from love keep or obey His commandments and from His purpose for our lives, carry out His work. We will cease working things out from ourselves. This is seeking the Kingdom of God and His righteousness as first priority. ***The greater love we have for God, God may give us more and more mature commandments to obey. This will allow us to live more complete holy and righteous lives.***
3. We are to live as our Lord lives, living with all for thoughts and actions coming from God the Father as a source. We are to do nothing from ourselves as a source. Thus, when people see us, as they saw our Lord, they will only see God the Father. This is because from ourselves, we are doing nothing. All of life's direction must come from God and centered in Him because He is the only one Who has value and perfect attributes (Greatness). He is the only one qualified and can direct the only perfect life. This is Who and What He is and what makes Him God.

Saying this in another way, as previously presented, we must live out what God and Christ are working in us. This is the normal Christian life.

Galatians 2:20 - "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.

21. BELL STATISTICS CURVE (one with a hump in the middle): We cannot be sure, but very likely people's maturity capability will be according to the Bell curve. Much of what happens on earth is according to the statistical bell curve. This being so, there will be very few believers who have the greatest and the least maturity in Christ. The vast majority will have an average maturity. Those, being the most humble before the Lord and seek to do all of what He wants (not necessarily the most knowledgeable), and by His ways, most likely will gain the maximum maturity levels. Those sitting regularly under rock music most probably will be among the least mature and can be at the lower levels. There may be exceptions. Only God knows the truth in these matters. And this is a good thing. **In these endtimes, the center hump can be skewed to the direction toward the least maturity. This is because we are going to pabulum teaching and using loud dominate rock beat type music in thousands of our churches.**

22. PURSUIT: If I am wrong in my understanding, I would rather error in the direction of seeking the best and greatest maturity as God commands instead of taking any lessor direction and not pursuing the greater maturity levels. We must hedge about being wrong especially when we are dealing about our lives in eternity. We must not be wrong. **We are speaking about eternity. The Bible does not teach a second chance or opportunity after death.**

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We must not live out what we think, apart from God's leading, is the correct thing to do. Thus, we must live out the life He has chosen for us as described only in the Bible. It should not be one we have chosen for ourselves apart from and independent of His direction and choice. ***If we do, we can be wasting our lives from the eternal perspective, and missing out what God has planned for us in this life.***

One example of a wrong thing, is to use but mainly pablum teaching and also loud repetitive beat rock type music in our churches. Such action as the main ministry, signals a somewhat immature life and one unknowledgeable of major doctrines, particularly those needed to become mature in Christ. How can one become mature in Christ using the world's methods, pablum teaching, and the world's music? Church leaders should do critical analysis of what they are doing. As stated, they are forming the immature Church - Satanic strategy.

4. When the aspects of items in paragraphs 1-3 above are in our lives where we give back to God what He is working in us and asking us to do, we glorify God. ***The more mature we are in obeying Him, the more our lives glorify God.***●23 Then, we have Him as our true God and can enjoy Him forever living in intimate fellowship with Him, living amidst and by His holiness and righteousness - amidst His (not our) Glory. We have fellowship with God as we live out what is important to Him. As we do this first individually and then together, we have fellowship with each other.
5. In order to live out the above (in paragraphs 1-4 above), we must●24:
 - (1) Appreciating God in His Greatness, we are to love God with our total being for who and what He is in His total and absolute Perfection. Then, loving Him, we will seek His will and obey everything He asks us to do and to become - keeping His commandments. When we do, we live holy and righteous lives. Living this way is why learning to live by great love is so important and most central. (We do not live as robots.) Having greater love, we can obey more of His commandments, and live more holy and righteous lives. (It allows us to no longer attempt to do things from ourselves as a source.) This allows us to know Him more in His Greatness such that we can know more of Who and What He is. (This life implies we know the commandments.)
 - (2) Live by faith trusting God to fulfill or carry out His promises to us. We will activate our faith by obeying the instructions with the promise. This produces living faith by which God works through to bring His intended results. Because in this faith life, everything is coming from God, nothing from us, we live without sin and we receive new revelation from Him. (This implies we know and have memorized the promises.) ***When we do not know the details of His directed will, we can take faith action steps to find His will, especially how and***

23. GLORIFY GOD: If our intention is to bring maximum glory to God, we have no choice, but to seek the greatest skill levels in a most mature walk with God in Christ-likeness so that we can obey more of what God has planned for us.

24. HELPFUL AID: Please read our document: *Living By God's Righteousness* on our web site under **TRAINING**. It gives promises and commandments to live by with the principles of love, the character qualities for Church leadership, and many other helps. One can read several pages each day as part of their devotions. This is what I do.

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where to carry it out. Thus, if we are to live without sin, we must learn and live trusting God to work all things in our lives and bring the results. This is a growth process.

No man has seen God the Father physically with eyes at any time. This situation will continue in eternity. This is because God the Father is everywhere present. He shows Himself through the Lord Jesus Christ who can be seen.

- (3) We must not only obey His commandments, we must believe that God is leading us to obey specific commandments so that our life is coming from Him, not from ourselves, as a source. This is the filling of the Holy Spirit. We should obey the direction that God is leading us and walk by faith to discover what we do not know - such as His choice of a university, spouse, and life pursuit for work and the ministry. Then we will walk in the light as He is in the light - He is the light and is the truth.

Comments: As we are maturing in Christ living as Christ lives, living by sacrificial love obeying the commandments, and living by faith to trust God to fulfill His promises and obeying the instructions with the promise, we will begin doing these automatically, but still learning more. It is like playing a piano, when one knows the musical piece, one's hands and fingers play the keys automatically without thinking where one should place their hands and fingers. It like typing on a typewriter.

We should be most thankful that we exist and have the eternal privilege, as Christians, to live perfect lives by knowing and relating to our most perfect God amidst His infinite Greatness and most wonderful Glory. We should search out and obey His will for no other reasons than these. We can only live in perfection as God has planned, as presented, when every thought and action for our lives comes from God the Father as a source. We will live this way in heaven. Then, God will be God all in all as the Scripture teaches. We should now train to live this way all we can. Church leadership should train for how to live this pursuit.

Those not currently Christians, should seek after God, as He works in them, to become Christians for the sake of being with God in eternity. A Christian is defined, that being led of God, one admits he is a sinner, having broken God's spiritual or relationship laws, and believes that Christ died on the Cross, satisfying God's Justice for sin, and has activated His faith by praying to God that He believes this only according to the Bible, independent of any church or religion. One can use Romans 1:16 with 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 as a biblical procedure to become a Christian, when God is working in and leading you. One can read the document on my web site under **TRAINING: *Becoming a Christian*** for information and the biblical procedure to become a Christian.

SUMMARY OF TWO MAJOR ALTERNATIVE DIRECTIONS FOR CHURCH LEADERSHIP WITH THEIR CONSEQUENCES AND RESULTS

(There can be some forms of combinations.)

ALTERNATIVE NUMBER ONE (To be avoided - not recommended):

Direction: Use mainly first-level (pabulum) training, without a complete curriculum, simply taught in the seeker friendly and emerging church formats with loud dominate repetitive rock beat music.

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Consequences: One generally will limit his spiritual growth to maturity. He, with others, will become and will be an immature Church, with a loss of biblical intellect and with a low plateau of biblical knowledge. As such, he, with the others, most likely will be caught blind sided when the Tribulation comes. Church members will massively fall away from the active faith when the severe persecution comes in the soon-coming endtimes Tribulation. They will have a limited relationships with God both now and in eternity. This is form of falling away from God's best and desires. (This is part of satanic strategy for the endtimes, especially as he works in the youth, so that believers will fall away in the endtimes Tribulation and will not know what is happening. Many will not believe the Gospel and/or not accomplish God's chosen work.) This approach brings minimum glory to and worship of God. It is living as man sees Christian worship and training.

Thousands of our churches going this direction most likely will be caught blind sided and unprepared when the calamity comes that brings the Tribulation. Thousands will fall away from the faith and die under the soon-coming extreme persecution. Leaders in such churches, in my view, are most irresponsible before the Lord and can expect God's judgment.

ALTERNATIVE NUMBER TWO (Recommended):

Direction: Use in depth-breadth on-the-job training with expository preaching-training with at least the minimum topics and curriculum presented in this report ***in some form of application and on-the-job training.*** Church services will use the hymns and other spiritual songs that describe God's Greatness for Who and What He is. ●25 Church and family people will be briefed and taught how the endtimes unfold so they will act with urgency to ensure to train their families, particularly their children and youth. Then they can stand stronger as the endtimes come. **Consequences:** Church members will become experientially very (and the most) mature in Christ-likeness in relationship living. They will be readied for eternity and for the endtimes Tribulation so they will not fall away when the persecution comes. They will have a maximum relationship with God both now, but especially in eternity. This action is toward having God's best and what He desires. This is God's plan for all times. It leads to revival and a close walk with Him. It gives Him much glory and worship. It is living as God sees Christian worship and training. This church and families will not be caught blind sided when the calamity comes that brings world government and the endtimes Tribulation.

WATCHMAN WARNING

Signs and conditions now signal and warn that the endtimes Tribulation can come at any time in the next few to many years, even this year - only God knowing the timing. The Church will go through the Tribulation because her falling away is largely responsible for its coming. The Tribulation is God's discipline on His endtimes favored nation (the United States) for her falling away and also on the rest of the nations. It will lead to Christ's Second Coming and the Rapture of the Church. (See our web site reports on prophecy.)

We must now urgently train and brief our people, form home churches for mutual support, and put in some supplies while still can. We must mature them, especially our children and youth, to become mature in Christ. Then they will stand strong under the coming persecution and not fall away and can gain more maturity in Christ. We must thoroughly

25. **CHORUSES:** Choruses will be used only if they do not have much repetition in the lyrics.

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understand that the Tribulation events will be much-much-much worse and more severe than most of us realize. We are going under world government where God allows Satan much power to rule. See the references presented earlier in a footnote.

THE BOTTOM LINE

We are to work for exchanged lives from the world unto Christ and God. We are not to bring the world into the Church. When one uses and wants rock-type loud beat music in the Church, this is a sign of not knowing sufficient doctrine and having less than the maturity that God has planned for us. It impedes one's growth to the higher skill levels in Christian maturity.

Work to mature your people toward the maximum in Christ-likeness and use music that brings maximum worship of God. Do not have the higher priority to gain numbers and use music from the world that pleases people. Have as a priority Christian growth in the Lord with your own people, not to use music that is used to draw numbers. Our churches by the thousands are dumbing down and using beat music. This is a major falling away and is helping to bring the endtimes Tribulation. Do you want responsibility for this?

Please understand:

1. If one does not now with urgency train their children and youth while they still can in freedom to become mature in Christ, standing strong in Him, they will greatly grieve when the soon-coming endtimes Tribulation comes. At that time, the government will take their children and youth and satanically educate and train them for the purposes of world religion and world government. Parents will not be able to do anything about it. This is satanic strategy to train and capture the world to be under his (false) godship.

2. The endtimes Tribulation will come without warning when most churches (especially those who believe a Pre-Tribulation Rapture or do not have a prophecy endtimes view) will wrongly believe and act as if the current times will continue indefinitely. This is a most major mistake and will cause one's people to be caught unprepared and blind sided as the Tribulation comes if they, including the children and youth, are not matured in Christ and briefed as to how the endtimes will come. This will happen to thousands of our churches.

Work to have and live out God's best for now and especially for eternity. Try to not compromise. Or one can have less than God plans for our lives. We can know less of our infinite God and be used in lessor ways

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throughout eternity than God desires for us. We must not let the latter to happen. What will you and your church do and what are you and your church doing. What will I and my church do and what am I and my church doing?